

Attorney Docket No. 1205-1030

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Kazuki MATSUI, et al.

Application No.: 09/745,721

Group Art Unit: 2163

Filed: December 26, 2000

Examiner: Unassigned

For: INFORMATION BROADCASTING METHOD AND DEVICE

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure provisions of 37 CFR § 1.56, there is hereby provided certain information which the Examiner may consider material to the examination of the subject U.S. patent application. It is requested that the Examiner make this information of record if it is deemed material to the examination of the subject application.

1. Enclosures accompanying this Information Disclosure Statement are:

- 1a. ☒ Form PTO-1449.
- 1b. ☒ Copies of IDS citations.
- 1c. ☐ An English language copy of search report(s) from a counterpart foreign application or a PCT International Search Report.
- 1d. ☐ English language translation (complete or relevant portion(s)) attached to each non-English language publication.
- 1e. ☒ Explanations of Relevancy of References (ATTACHMENT 1(e), hereto) for providing a concise explanation of each non-English publication.
- 1f. ☐ List of Copending Applications (ATTACHMENT 1(f), hereto).
- 1g. ☐ List of Additional Submitted Documents (ATTACHMENT 1(g), hereto).

2. ☒ This Information Disclosure Statement is filed under 37 CFR §1.97(b):

(Check either Item 2a or 2b or 2c or 2d)

- 2a. ☐ Within three months of the filing date of a national application other than a Continued Prosecution Application under § 1.53(d);
- 2b. ☐ Within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in § 1.491 in an international application.
- 2c. ☒ Before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits; or
- 2d. ☐ Before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a Request for Continued Examination under § 1.114.

3. ☐ This Information Disclosure Statement is filed under 37 CFR § 1.97(c) after the period specified in paragraph 2 above but before the mailing date of any of a Final Office Action under § 1.113, a Notice of Allowance under § 1.311 or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, AND

(Check either Item 3a or 3b; Item 3b to be checked if any reference known for more than 3 months)

- 3a. ☐ The §1.97(e) Statement in Item 5 below is applicable; OR
 3b. ☐ The \$180.00 fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) is:
☐ enclosed.
☐ to be charged to Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

4. ☐ This Information Disclosure Statement is filed under 37 CFR §1.97(d) after the period specified in paragraph 3 above, but on or before payment of the Issue Fee, AND

- 4a. ☐ The § 1.97(e) Statement in Item 5 below is applicable; AND
 4b. ☐ The \$180.00 fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) is:
☐ enclosed.
☐ to be charged to Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

5. ☒ Statement under § 1.97(e) *(applicable if Item 3a or Item 4 is checked)*
(Check either Item 5a or 5b)

- 5a. ☒ In accordance with 37 CFR § 1.97(e)(1), it is stated that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.
 5b. ☐ In accordance with 37 CFR § 1.97(e)(2), it is stated that no item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was known by any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

6. ☐ This is a continuation/divisional/continuation-in-part application under 37 CFR § 1.53(b).

(Check appropriate Items 6a and/or 6b)

- 6a. ☐ Copies of the publications listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 which were previously cited in prior application Serial No. ___, filed on ___, and which is relied on for an earlier effective filing date for the subject application under 35 U.S.C. § 120, have been omitted pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.98(d).
 6b. ☐ Copies of the publications listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 which were not previously cited in prior application Serial No. ___, filed on ___, and which is relied on for an earlier effective filing date for the subject application under 35 U.S.C. § 120, are provided herewith.

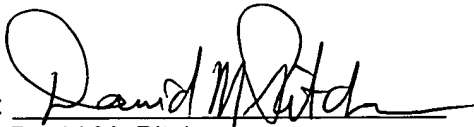
7. ☐ This is a continuation/divisional application under 37 CFR § 1.53(d) or Request for Continued Examination under 37 CFR 1.114.
(Check either Item 7a or 7b)
- 7a. ☐ The Issue Fee has not been paid.
- 7b. ☐ A Petition to Withdraw from issue under 37 CFR §1.313(c) is filed concurrently herewith or has been granted. A continuation application under 37 CFR § 1.53(d) or Request for Continued Examination under 37 CFR 1.114, after payment of the Issue Fee is proper in accordance with 37 CFR § 1.53(d)(1)(ii) or 37 CFR 1.114(a), respectively.
8. ☐ This is a Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement.
(Check either Item 8a or 8b)
- 8a. ☐ This Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR § 1.97(f) supplements the Information Disclosure Statement filed on _____. A bona fide attempt was made to comply with 37 CFR § 1.98, but inadvertent omissions were made. These omissions have been corrected herein. Accordingly, additional time is requested so that this Supplemental IDS can be considered as if properly filed on _____.
- 8b. ☐ This Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is timely filed within one (1) month of the Notice under 37 CFR § 1.97 and 1.98, mailed _____. (MPEP 609 C(1), Form ¶ 6.49, Rev. 1, Feb. 2000, pp. 600-107)
9. ☒ In accordance with 37 CFR § 1.98, a concise explanation of what is presently understood to be the relevance of each non-English language publication is:
(Check appropriate Items 9a, 9b, 9c and/or 9d)
- 9a. ☐ satisfied because all non-English language publications were cited on the enclosed English language copy of the PCT International Search Report or the search report from a counterpart foreign application indicating the degree of relevance found by the foreign office. (See U.S. Patent & Trademark Office's authorization in the Federal Register, Vol. 57, No. 12, January 17, 1992, at page 2031 (Reply to Comment 68).)
- 9b. ☐ set forth in the application.
- 9c. ☐ satisfied because an English language translation (complete or relevant portion(s)) is attached to each non-English language publication.
- 9d. ☒ enclosed as Attachment 1(e), hereto.
10. No admission is made that the information cited in this Statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability nor a representation that a search has been made (other than search report(s) from a counterpart foreign application or a PCT International Search Report, if submitted herewith). 37 CFR §§ 1.97(g) and (h).

11. The Commissioner is authorized to credit any overpayment or charge any additional fee required under 37 CFR § 1.17 for this Information Disclosure Statement and/or Petition to Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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ATTACHMENT 1(e) (PAGE 1 OF 2)

EXPLANATIONS OF RELEVANCY OF REFERENCES	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	APPLICATION NO.
	1405.1030	09/745,721
	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	
	Kazuki MATSUI, et al.	
	FILING DATE	GROUP ART UNIT
	December 26, 2000	2163

Reference AG - Japan 2000-151686

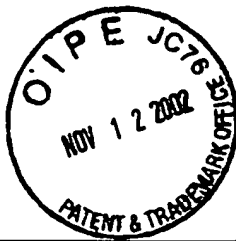
Applicants state that the object of this reference is to send a mail to many destinations by setting individually a mail address to the destinations, and to send a mail sentence specialized for each destination that is automatically generated. Therefore, a mail reflecting schedule information is automatically sent to a customer's mail address selected according to the schedule (paragraphs 0020-0022). A body of mail is generated by imbedding individual information into a prescribed form (paragraphs 0017-0018). Moreover, a bargain sale of a coat is notified to the members who have an interest in the purchase of a coat (paragraph 0022).

Reference AH - Japan 11-51666

Applicants state that the object of this reference is to provide information suitable for the position and situation of a mobile communication terminal. An information retrieval distribution device for the mobile communication terminal is described that retrieves information in a certain range based on the positional information of the mobile communication terminal and provides information to the mobile communication terminal (claim 1). Self-vehicle information and an information retrieval item which are transmitted by a plurality of car navigation systems to an information server at a base station are stored, and retrieval of the information retrieval item is performed in the retrieval range (paragraph 0046). The retrieval information may be information that is stored in an outlying server connected electronically via the Internet and the like (paragraph 0109).

Reference AI - Japan 9-212563

Applicants state that the object of this reference is to make a travel plan so as to make use of facilities at optimum time by a simple inputting operation. A travel-plan making system is described that makes a travel plan according to traveler's purpose by a traveler's inputting operation (Fig. 1). This system accepts input of facility information and visiting purpose and provides recommended visiting time and a travel plan.

**ATTACHMENT 1(e) (PAGE 2 OF 2)**

EXPLANATIONS OF RELEVANCY OF REFERENCES	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	APPLICATION NO.
	1405.1030	09/745,721
	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	
	Kazuki MATSUI, et al.	
	FILING DATE	GROUP ART UNIT
	December 26, 2000	2163

Reference AI - Japan 9-212563 (continued)

In addition, Reference AA, U.S. Patent No. 5,940,803, appears to correspond to the disclosure of Reference AI.

Reference AJ - Japan 11-338809

Applicants state that the object of this reference is to provide a system that can flexibly control an advertising period, an advertising offer method, the number of advertising times, and the like. An information communication system is described that stores advertising information containing advertising offer control attribution information, and that analyzes the advertising offer control attribution information and controls offer of the advertising information when the advertising information is provided (claim 1). This system sets an advertising rate according to the number of advertising times (paragraph 0170).

Reference AK - Japan 2000-163485

Applicants state that the object of this reference is to utilize each facility located in specified area without forming a queue when the facility is utilized. Reservation information for utilizing the facility is stored in IC cards and the like, and utilization of the facility is accepted in accordance with the result of checking the reservation information of the IC cards at each facility. Likewise, the reservation information stored in the IC cards is analyzed, and an excursion route of facilities and the like is analyzed (paragraph 0042).

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Sheet 1 of 1

FORM PTO-1449	U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 1405.1030	APPLICATION NO. 09/745,721
LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT (Use several sheets if necessary)		FIRST NAMED INVENTOR Kazuki MATSUI, et al.	
		FILING DATE December 26, 2000	GROUP ART UNIT 2163

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	FILING DATE
	AA	5,940,803	8-17-99	Kanemitsu	705	6	1-27-97
	AB						
	AC						
	AD						
	AE						
	AF						

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO	
	AG	2000-151686	5-30-00	Japan				X
	AH	11-51666	2-26-99	Japan				X
	AI	9-212563	8-15-97	Japan				X
	AJ	11-338809	12-10-99	Japan				X
	AK	2000-163485	6-16-00	Japan				X
	AL							

OTHER REFERENCES (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

	AM	
	AN	

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.	